



# The Essence of Mongolia

Explore the natural wonders, historic treasures  
and cultural heritage in

**Ulaanbaatar, Gobi Desert, Terelj  
& Hustai**

**10 Days / 08 Nights**

**Access Asia Tours  
Annual Special Journey**

**September 04 - 13, 2020**

## Tour Program Summary

**Mongolia** is one of the last truly wild places on earth. Over twice the size of Texas this land locked nation is the least densely populated country on earth offering limitless pure air, clear skies, fresh water rivers and rolling grasslands. Starting in 1206 AD, a tiny group of hardy Mongolians lead by Chinggis Khan conquered and maintained the largest land empire the world has ever seen. Today remnants of Mongolian culture can be seen stretching from Korea to Hungary. The clean environment is home to multitudes of wildlife such as antelope, horses, gazelles and Bactrian camels. Traditional nomadic families still follow the seasons and herds subsisting on animal husbandry. The Mongolians are a proud and friendly people happy to share their unique lifestyle of bygone eras with visitors.

Your Mongolia adventure starts in **Ulaanbaatar**, which translates to Red Hero in Mongolian. This city sitting at an elevation of 4,500 ft/1300 m is the coldest average temperature capital city on earth but enjoys pleasant weather during the tourist season from April through October. Half of Mongolia's population lives in and around UB, and here you can tour functional Buddhist monasteries, excellent dinosaur fossils and the center of modern Mongolian government. Several fine hotels and restaurants can make your stay in the capital both comfortable and enjoyable.

**Hustai National Park** is surrounded by mountains, thick forests and lush meadows. It is home to the Przewalski endangered wild horse "Takhi" along with 60 other species of mammals and a vast range of plants. Hustai is also an excellent place for bird watching, horse riding, hiking and experiencing nomadic culture.

Next fly south to the **Gobi Desert**, the northernmost desert on earth. This unique ecological zone is home to diverse wildlife and amazing sand dunes and rock forms. Behold the Yol valley and Flaming Cliffs, incredible geological rock formations. Ride camels on some of the world's largest sand dunes at Khongor and look for dinosaur fossils in one of the world's richest deposits. Enjoy some of the most spectacular sunsets and brightest nighttime stars of your life in the isolated and other worldly locale that is the Gobi.

Finish your tour in hinterlands of Ulaan Baatar in **Terelj National Park** which offers hiking, swimming, climbing and wild life watching opportunities. On the way, back to Ulaan Bataar, visit the 140-foot-tall chrome **Statue of Chinggis Khan**, the unifier of Mongols and conqueror of the known world.

**Tour Leader & Escort:** Access Asia Tours' co-owner and director of marketing **Mr. Joe Sinisi** will be leading this tour. Joe co-founded Access Asia Tours 24 years ago to fulfill his passion for delivering high quality tour services to sophisticated travelers in exotic parts of the world. Joe has visited 80 countries on six continents, yet Malaysia remains one of his favorite destinations. Join Joe experiencing the rich food, drink and culture and stunning natural beauty of tropical Malaysia. Joe will share his knowledge of Malaysian religion, history and cuisine on this unique trip designed for active and inquisitive travelers.



### Tour Itinerary Key:

- Things that are on your own
- [Hotel accommodations](#)
- Time & transportation methods
- = flights that are not included in the land price
- ✈ = flight, 🚗 = private car, 🚢 = cruise, (included in the land price)
- Meals <B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner>
- [Sessions/ rides](#)

## Tour Daily Itinerary



Sep 04 → Depart

*Fri*

Fly from North America to Ulaanbaatar.

Sep 05 → Ulaanbaatar

*Sat*

Arrive in Ulaanbaatar today, met by your private English-speaking driver, transfer to the 5-star [Best Western Premiere Hotel \(deluxe rooms\)](#) for check-in. **The evening is free for relaxation/exploration. Dinner is on your own.**

Sep 06 Ulaanbaatar

*Sun*

**Breakfast at the hotel;** met by your guide and driver, take a city tour of Ulaanbaatar. Visit the [Gandan Monastery](#), the [National Museum of Mongolia](#), and the [Main Square](#) of Ulaanbaatar. Next, **have lunch at a local restaurant.** Then take a 1hr drive to visit [Hustai National Park](#). Go to the information center before going to look for [wild horses and other wildlife](#) with a biologist. **Have dinner at a Hustai camp** before heading back to your hotel in Ulaanbaatar. **The evening is at your leisure.** <B-L-D>

Sep 07 Ulaanbaatar

*Mon*

→ Dalanzadgad Gobi

Early start today with a **boxed breakfast;** met by your guide, transfer to the airport for **flight TBD (6:50am – 8:10am)** to Dalanzadgad in the Gobi Desert. Met by your local guide and driver, visit the [Yoliin Am Gorge](#) (1-hour drive), a beautiful narrow canyon with interesting geological rock formations. **Enjoy a Picnic Lunch.** The surrounding mountains are home to many rare wildlife species, such as Argali wild sheep, Ibex, and different types of birds. In the afternoon, transfer to the Khongor Sand Dunes and stay at the [Gobi Erdene Ger Camp \(en-suite log house with bath\)](#). Admire the brilliant Gobi sunset and enjoy a **locally sourced dinner.** <B-L-D>

Sep 08 Gobi Desert

*Tue*

**Breakfast in the camp;** visit the beautiful [Khongor Sand Dunes](#) and oasis. Enjoy walking and climbing up the sand dunes, some of the world's largest. **Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant.** This afternoon, visit a [local nomadic family](#), learn about their culture, and how to [cook Mongolian cuisine](#). Later, enjoy a [Sunset Camel Ride](#) through the sand dunes. This evening at the camp, **enjoy a special dinner of local food cooked in the traditional manner on hot rocks over an open fire.** <B-L-D>

Sep 09 Gobi Desert

*Wed*

**Breakfast in the camp;** take a 3-hour drive to visit [Bayanzag](#): The [Flaming Cliffs](#), one of the most famous dinosaur sites in the world. Hike in the multicolored cliffs or dig for dinosaur remains. Then watch an amazing sunset over the red landscape. Watch a ger assembly demonstration to see how they are built when nomads are traveling around the region. In the evening transfer to [Dream Gobi Camp \(en-suite ger with bathroom\)](#). **Enjoy dinner at the camp and the evening is free at your leisure.** <B-L-D>



Sep 10 **Dalanzadgad**  
**Thu** → Ulaanbaatar  
 🚗 Terelj

**Breakfast at the camp**; transfer the airport for **flight TBD (8:30am – 9:50am)**, to fly back to Ulaanbataar. Met by your familiar UB guide and driver, head east to visit the Giant Chinggis Khan Statue, an impressive 135-foot-tall chrome edifice in the Sacred Tuul River Valley. **Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant**. Afterwards drive another hour Terelj National Park. Check into the Dream Terelj Lodge (en-suite ger with bathroom). After **dinner** admire the brilliant stars of the clear night sky. <B-L-D>

Sep 11 **Terelj National Park**  
**Fri**

**Breakfast at the camp**; enjoy a half day visit to the 13<sup>th</sup> century theme park. **Enjoy a picnic lunch**. Then go hiking to Turtle Rock and the Temple of Meditation. The scenery there is fantastic and there are great opportunities for hiking, bird watching, rock climbing, swimming and rafting. In the afternoon, enjoy a two-hour horseback ride across the steppes on the same horses ridden by Chinggis Khan's armies as they conquered the known world eight centuries ago. Return to camp for another **dinner** and sunset. <B-L-D>

Sep 12 **Terelj National Park**  
**Sat** 🚗 Ulaanbaatar

**Breakfast at the camp**; drive back to Ulaanbaatar and tour the city. See the Gandan Monastery, where monks chant in this functioning Buddhist monastery built over a century ago. Tour Sukbaatar Square and Mongolian Parliament. Go to the National Museum housing, one of the world's best dinosaur fossil collections and expansive Mongolian anthropology exhibits. Have a **Mongolian cuisine lunch**. In the afternoon, visit Bodg Khan's Palace Museum and go to the top of Zaisan Memorial Hill for a panoramic view of the city. Afterwards, enjoy a Mongolian folklore concert and have a **farewell dinner** of traditional Ulaanbaatar cuisine. Stay overnight at the Best Western Premier Hotel (deluxe rooms). <B-L-D>

Sep 13 **Ulaanbaatar**  
**Sun** → Seoul

**Breakfast at the hotel**; transfer to the airport for your **flight** to Seoul. Upon arrival, met by your guide and driver, transfer to the Millenium Hilton Hotel for check-in. Have a **welcome dinner** and **enjoy the rest of the evening on your own**. <B-D>

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**Changes to Itinerary:** Access Asia Tours has made all possible attempts to ensure the accuracy of tour itineraries. Circumstances beyond our control may occur. We reserve the right to change itineraries, sightseeing activities, and common carriers, and to substitute hotels when necessary. Service of a similar category and standard will be maintained if such changes are made. The Service Voucher in your last pre-departure packet will provide the operational itinerary summary, final transport and hotel information.

## Selected First-Class Hotels for Your Tour

Please Note: The photos below are representative of the room categories. Actual rooms may vary from what is shown.



### **Best Western Premier Tuushin Hotel (Ulaanbaatar)**

In the center of Ulaanbaatar's historic district, this elegant, modern hotel is 3 km from the 19th-century Gandan Monastery. Freebies include a breakfast buffet, secured parking and an airport shuttle. There are 2 restaurants, 1 of which serves grill-style cuisine. There's also a spa, a gym, and a cozy lounge with panoramic city views.



### **Gobi Erdene Ger Camp (Gobi)**



### **Dream Gobi Camp Flaming Cliffs (Gobi)**



### **Dream Terej Lodge (Terej National Park)**

## Tour Land Prices Inclusions & Exclusion

**Tour Land Price:**           **\$ 2,950 USD per person**, double occupancy based on **10 travelers**

**\$ 495 USD per person**, single supplement

### **What's Included in Tour Land Prices:**

- Designated hotel accommodations, double occupancy with daily breakfast
- Domestic air tickets (Ulaanbaatar – Gobi, Gobi – Ulaanbaatar)
- Arrival and departure transfer by private vehicle
- Pre-departure information packets
- All tour related in-country domestic taxes
- All sightseeing, activities, and cultural events listed in the itinerary
- All meals specified in the itinerary
- Service of a private professional English-speaking local tour guide
- Private, clean, and newer vehicles with air-conditioning and a professional driver when applicable

### **What's Not Included in Tour Land Prices:**

- Cross-Pacific international air tickets (*will quote separately upon request*)
- Early check-ins and late check-outs (*subject to availability/ extra cost*)
- Optional activities and tours (*will quote separately upon request*)
- Any beverages including alcohol throughout the tour
- Visa processing fees if any
- Trip cancellation, baggage, accident, and medical insurance
- Gratuities to guides and drivers
- Items not listed and/or specified as included in the itinerary

**Deposit and Cancellation Policy:** **20% of Total Tour Price as deposit to be paid at the time of signing up.** Tour Balance is due **90 days** prior to tour date. All cancellation notices must be received in writing and will become effective as of the date of receipt by Access Asia Tours. We assess cancellation fees of all tours according to the following schedule:

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 90 days or more prior to departure ----- | 10% of Total Tour Price |
| 89 to 60 days prior to departure -----   | 30% of Total Tour Price |
| 59 to 30 days prior to departure -----   | 50% of Total Tour Price |
| 29 to 15 days prior to departure -----   | 70% of Total Tour Price |

\* Plus any charges assessed by government agencies, land suppliers, cruise companies and airlines.

Within 14 days of departure .....100% forfeiture of the tour price per person

Access Asia Tours will not grant partial refunds for any unused trip arrangements after the trip has commenced or any refunds to participants who do not complete any portion of the itinerary. Any airline tickets issued are subject to the carrier's refund and cancellation policy. **We strongly recommend you purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance to protect your travel investment.** If a tour is forced to be cancelled due to government's travel warnings, declared or undeclared wars, hostilities, civil disturbances, strike, riot, epidemic, and quarantines, Access Asia Tours will refund all participants' payment less any irretrievable expenses and loss (visa fees, airline penalties, communication cost, and non-refundable booking cost, etc.). However, Access Asia Tours will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by tour participants (e.g., non-refundable "advance purchase" air tickets, insurance & medical expenses, passport and visa expenses, etc.)

